Annual Grants Report
Fiscal Year 2015

Prepared by:
Theresa Ford, Grants Administrator
Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects
Kent State University at Stark
September, 2015 (revised February, 2016)

Kazimir Malevich, Woman with a Rake, 1928-1932, oil on canvas, 100 x 70 cm (State Tretiakov Gallery, Moscow). Dr. Marie Gasper-Hulvat, Assistant Professor of Art, was awarded a Kent State University Teaching Council Summer Development Grant for her project, “Creating Smarthistory-style Videos for Flipping a Class on Russian Art.” She created a video series in a conversational format, describing 16 pieces of Russian Art from the 12th century to the present, which can be viewed by clicking on the project title above.
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Preface


The Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects at Kent State Stark strives to promote grant activity and facilitate grant seeking proactively among faculty and staff. The focus of the Office is on pre-award grant activity, but assistance is provided in directing faculty and staff to individuals who can help with post-award activity. Originating in 2013, the Office serves under the Dean and Chief Administrative Officer of Kent State Stark, Dr. Denise A. Seachrist.

A note about the data in this report:

Please note that grant submissions in fiscal year 2015 do not necessarily match grant notifications within the fiscal year. Notifications can occur from a few weeks to a year after a grant application is submitted. In this report, submissions for fiscal year 2015 reflect all grants that were submitted from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015, and notifications are made up of all grants in which the applicant received notification from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. Therefore, some notifications are the outcomes of grants that were submitted in the previous year, fiscal year 2014, and notifications for some of the grants that were submitted in fiscal year 2015 are still pending.

Dr. Chris Post, Associate Professor of Geography, was awarded a Dominion Foundation Higher Educational Partnership Grant for his project, “Campus to Career from the Liberal Arts to the Energy Sector,” for the acquisition and installation of a vertical wind turbine to serve as a cross-disciplinary teaching and learning tool and to promote energy conservation and sustainability at Kent State University at Stark.
### Table 1

**Kent State University at Stark**  
**Grant Activity by Fiscal Quarter and Year for FY 2014 and 2015**  
*February 23, 2016 (revised)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>By Submission Date</th>
<th>Number by Notification Date</th>
<th>Dollar by Notification Date</th>
<th>Award Rate</th>
<th>Average Award Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Dollar</td>
<td>Awarded</td>
<td>Denied</td>
<td>Awarded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q 1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$254,463</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$70,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q 2</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>$619,178</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$304,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q 3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>$517,835</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$374,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q 4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$340,833</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$8,905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>46</td>
<td>$1,732,309</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>$758,431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q 1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$699,685</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$793,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q 2</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>$1,008,500</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$82,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q 3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$1,252,700</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$240,339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q 4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>$784,336</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$179,978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>47</td>
<td>$3,745,222</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>$1,296,230</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Quarterly and Annual Percentage Change**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Percent Difference</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q 1</td>
<td>-25%</td>
<td>237.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q 2</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>-56.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q 3</td>
<td>-33%</td>
<td>-35.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q 4</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>-100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SUBMISSIONS: Faculty, Staff, and Administrators

At Kent State University at Stark, faculty from six colleges of the university and staff from Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management and Student Services, and the Office of the Dean applied for 46 grants in 2015. Several faculty and staff applied for multiple grants. Dr. Jennifer Cunningham in the Department of English submitted five proposals, the highest number of any faculty at the Stark Campus. Others submitted proposals with multiple Kent State Stark collaborators or with colleagues at the Kent Campus or other universities, including Purdue and Clemson Universities.

COLLEGE of the ARTS
Sebastian A. Birch, School of Music
Marie Gasper-Hulvat, School of Art
Jack E. McWhorter, School of Art
Brian S. Newberg, School of Theatre and Dance

COLLEGE of the ARTS and SCIENCES
P. Bagavandoss, Department of Biological Sciences
Jennifer M. Cunningham, Department of English
Clarke Earley, Department of Chemistry
Kim Finer, Department of Biological Sciences
Angela Guercio, Department of Computer Science
Robert Hamilton, Department of Biological Sciences
Gro Hovhannisyan, Dept. of Mathematical Science
Matthew S. Lehnert, Department of Biological Sciences
Ann M. Martinez, Department of English
Mary A. Rooks, Department of English
Carrie E. Schweitzer, Department of Geology
James E. Seelye, Department of History
Gregory A. Smith, Department of Biological Sciences
Lindsay J. Starkey, Department of History
Eric S. Taylor, Department of Geology
Relja Vulanovic, Department of Mathematical Science

COLLEGE of BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Claudia Gomez, Management & Information Systems
Deepraj Mukherjee, Department of Economics
Lillian Prince, Management & Information Systems

COLLEGE of COMMUNICATION and INFORMATION
Mitchell J. McKenney, School of Journalism & Mass Comm.

COLLEGE of EDUCATION, HEALTH, and HUMAN SERVICES
Chih-ling Liou, Lifespan Dev. & Educational Sciences
Claudia Khourey-Bowers, Teaching, Learning & Curriculum
Lori Wilfong, School of Teaching, Learning & Curriculum

COLLEGE of NURSING
Debra S. Shelestak, Nursing

STAFF and ADMINISTRATION
Shaanette M. Fowler, Internship & Career Services
Brian L. Gardner, Facilities and Sustainability
A. Bathi Kasturiarachi, Academic Affairs
Mary Southards, Enrollment Management & Student Serv.
Victor Pavona, Small Business Development Center
Amber L. Wallace, Financial Aid & Scholarships
SUBMISSIONS: Grant Statistics, Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015

Faculty and staff at Kent State University at Stark submitted one additional proposal in 2015 compared to 2014, a total of 47 grant applications (Table 2). Grants submitted to external foundations and government agencies increased by 3 and grants submitted internally declined by 2 in 2015 from 2014 (Figure 1).

Kent State University at Stark faculty and staff more than doubled the dollar value of their grant proposals from $1.7 million in fiscal year 2014 to $3.7 million in fiscal year 2015, an increase of 116% in the dollars requested in grant proposals (Table 2). Again, the growth occurred in external grants from foundations and government agencies from $1.5 million in 2014 to $3.5 million in fiscal year 2015 (Figure 2). Grant dollars for internal submissions declined from $276,049 in 2014 to $244,989 in 2015.

Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>By Submission Date Number</th>
<th>Dollar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q 1</td>
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<td>$3,745,222</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOTIFICATIONS:  *Faculty, Staff, and Administrators Awarded Grants*

The following faculty from the Colleges of the Arts; Arts and Sciences; Business Administration; and Education, Health, and Human Services and staff and administration from Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management and Student Services, External Affairs, and the Office of the Dean were awarded grants in fiscal year 2015. A total of 26 grants were awarded to 16 faculty and 4 staff and administrators of Kent State Stark. Seven faculty of the Stark Campus were awarded multiple grants.

**COLLEGE of the ARTS**
- **Marie Gasper-Hulvat**, Kent State University Teaching Council, Summer Development Grant, “Creating Smarthistory-style Videos for Flipping a Class on Russian Art,” $4,500.

**COLLEGE of ARTS and SCIENCES**
- **Jennifer M. Cunningham**, Kent State University Teaching Council, Summer Teaching Development Grant, “College Writing I Online Master Course Project,” $4,500.
- **Matthew S. Lehnert**, National Science Foundation, Integrative Organismal Systems (IOS) “Mechanisms of Fluid Feeding in Insects, from Nanoscale to Organism, Subaward with PI Peter Adler and co-PI Konstantin Kornev of Clemson University, $177,514.
- **Matthew S. Lehnert**, National Science Foundation, Major Research Instrumentation (MRI), “Acquisition of an Intuitive Multi-Touch Scanning Electron Microscope to Enhance Research as well as Undergraduate Student Research and Natural Science Courses, with co-PIs Kim Finer, Jeremy Green, Carrie Schweitzer, and Eric Taylor, $161,039.
- **Christopher Post**, Dominion Foundation, Higher Educational Partnership Grant, “Campus to Career from the Liberal Arts to the Energy Sector,” (for the acquisition and installation of a vertical wind turbine to enhance undergraduate courses and research), $28,000.
- **Carrie Schweitzer**, Muskingum Watershed Conservation District, Partners in Watershed Management Grant, with co-PIs Robert Hamilton IV and Eric Taylor, $16,126.
- **James E. Seelye**, Kent State University, University Teaching Council, Conference Travel Grant for the Ohio Academy of History Conference, $500.
NOTIFICATIONS: Faculty, Staff, and Administrators Awarded Grants (continued)

COLLEGE of BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

- **Deepraj Mukherjee**, College of Business Administration, Summer Research Grant, “Does Financial Development Improve Economic Transparency?” for research and a presentation at the Annual ISNIE Conference at the Harvard Law School, $2,100.

COLLEGE of EDUCATION, HEALTH, and HUMAN SERVICES

- **Claudia Khourey-Bowers**, Ohio Board of Regents, Improving Teacher Quality Program “Conceptual Chemistry for Teachers of Grades 4-9” with PI Christopher Fenk, $125,638.
- **Chih-Ling Liou**, Kent State University Research Council, 2015 Summer Research/Creative Activity Appointment, $6,500.

STAFF and ADMINISTRATION

- **A. Bathi Kasturiarachi**, Ohio Department of Education, Straight A Fund, Young Entrepreneurs Consortium (YEC), Subaward with Stark County Area Vocational School District award of Stark County ESC, with PI Andrew Tonge and co-PI Jenya Soprunova, $169,878.
- **Victor Pavona**, Stark County Regional Planning Board, $32,982 and multiple grants from the Ohio Development Services Agency, $178,082.
- **Faith Sheafer-Polen**, Great Lakes Guaranty Corporation, Career-Ready Internship Program, $150,000.
- **Amber L. Wallace**, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Nursing Student Loan Program, $13,589.
At Kent State University at Stark, faculty and staff were notified of the outcomes of 46 grant proposals in fiscal year 2015, an increase of 3 from 2014. Notifications for external grants increased from 25 to 30 and for internal grants declined from 18 to 16 (Figure 3).

The bold change occurred in the size of the grants for which faculty and staff applied. While the number of total grants rose 5% overall and 17% for external grants, the dollar value more than doubled from $1.4 million in 2014 to $2.8 million in fiscal year 2015 (Figure 4).

All of the increase occurred in external funding – growing 130% in grant dollar notifications, as the number and dollar value of notifications for internal funding both declined in 2015.
NOTIFICATIONS: Grant Award Statistics, Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015

At Kent State University at Stark, the total number of grants awarded increased 24% from 21 awards in 2014 to 26 awards in 2015 (Figure 5), with the dollar value of awards increasing 71% from $0.8 million in 2014 to $1.3 million in 2015 (Figure 6). All of the growth in the number and dollars of grants can be attributed to an increase in external grants, as the number and dollars of internal grants remained unchanged.

Dr. James Seelye, Assistant Professor of History, was awarded a Northern Michigan University, Grace H. Magnaghi Visiting Research Grant for his project, “American Indian Catholicism in the 19th Century Great Lakes.” Pictured here with Marcus Robyns, the Archivist at the Central Upper Peninsula and Northern Michigan University Archives, Dr. Seelye visited and conducted research during summer 2015. He was also awarded a Kent State University Teaching Council travel grant to attend the Ohio Academy of History Conference.
2015 marked a shift in grant funding for Kent State University at Stark, which diversified its grant portfolio with new revenue sources particularly from external foundations. In 2015, grants from external foundations grew from 3.1% in 2014 to 13.8% (Figures 7 and 8) of total grant dollars, sharply contrasting internal funding that declined from 3.8% in 2014 to 1.5% of total funding in 2015. Most of the grant funding has been awarded by external government agencies, making up 93% in 2014 and 84% in 2015.

As part of his research project, “Collaborative Research: Natural Selection on Growth and Locomotor Development in Eastern Cottontail Rabbits (Sylvilagus floridanus), funded by a National Science Foundation - Integrative Organismal Systems (IOS) grant, Dr. Gregory A. Smith, Assistant Professor in Biological Sciences, places a radio collar on a cottontail rabbit and then releases the rabbit.
Most of the grants awarded to Kent State Stark faculty and staff are research grants. The growth in the number of grants occurred in teaching grants, increasing from 1 to 4 grants in 2015; public outreach grants, increasing from 7 to 8 grants; and research grants, increasing from 10 to 11 (Figure 9). The number of student success grants remained unchanged at 3 each year.

The majority of grant dollars are dedicated to research, followed by public outreach, student success, and teaching (Figure 10). Grant dollars for all types of grants grew from 2014 to 2015, more than double for student success and teaching grants.

The American Road Machinery Company in Canton, Ohio was the site of one of Kent State University at Stark’s Career Ready Internships, a paid internship program funded with a grant from the Great Lakes Guaranty Corporation. Faith Sheaffer-Polen, Director of the Corporate University, grew the program, which created 41 internships during the 2014-2015 academic year and summer of 2015.
NOTIFICATIONS:  

Composition of Awards: Type, Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015

In 2015, student success and teaching grants grew as a percent of total grant dollars from 2014 with the share of research and public outreach grant dollars shrinking as a percent of total grant dollars from 2014 to 2015 (Figures 11 and 12). In 2014 research grant dollars made up 52% of all grant dollars, and in 2015 they comprised 40%.

With a Career-Ready Internship grant from the Great Lakes Guaranty Corporation, Faith Sheaffer-Polen managed and grew an internship program at Kent State University at Stark that placed junior- and senior-year students in paid internships in their major field of study. One intern completed a marketing internship at Rebecca’s Bistro in Ohio’s Amish Country in Walnut Creek, Ohio, and several interns worked on creative projects at The Wilderness Center in Wilmont, Ohio.
In 2015, the award rate for the total number of grants rose from 49% in 2014 to 57% in 2015, although the award rate for the number of external government grants declined from 92% in 2014 to 75% in 2015 (Figure 13). However, in 2015, faculty and staff submitted 20 grants to federal agencies compared to 16 in 2014. The increase in the award rate for the total number of grants was the result of an increase in the award rate for the number of internal grants and external grants to foundations.

The award rate for grant dollars declined from 55% in 2014 to 47% in 2015 in every category, except for the award rate for external grants from foundations, which grew from 9% to 51%, another indication of the growing success of securing grants from external foundations by Kent State University at Stark (Figure 14).

Dr. Gregory A. Smith, Assistant Professor in Biological Sciences, takes measurements of a red-tailed bat before tagging and releasing it.